

# Tribal WQS Training Academy – Introduction to Assessment and Attainment of Water Quality Standards

Presented by:

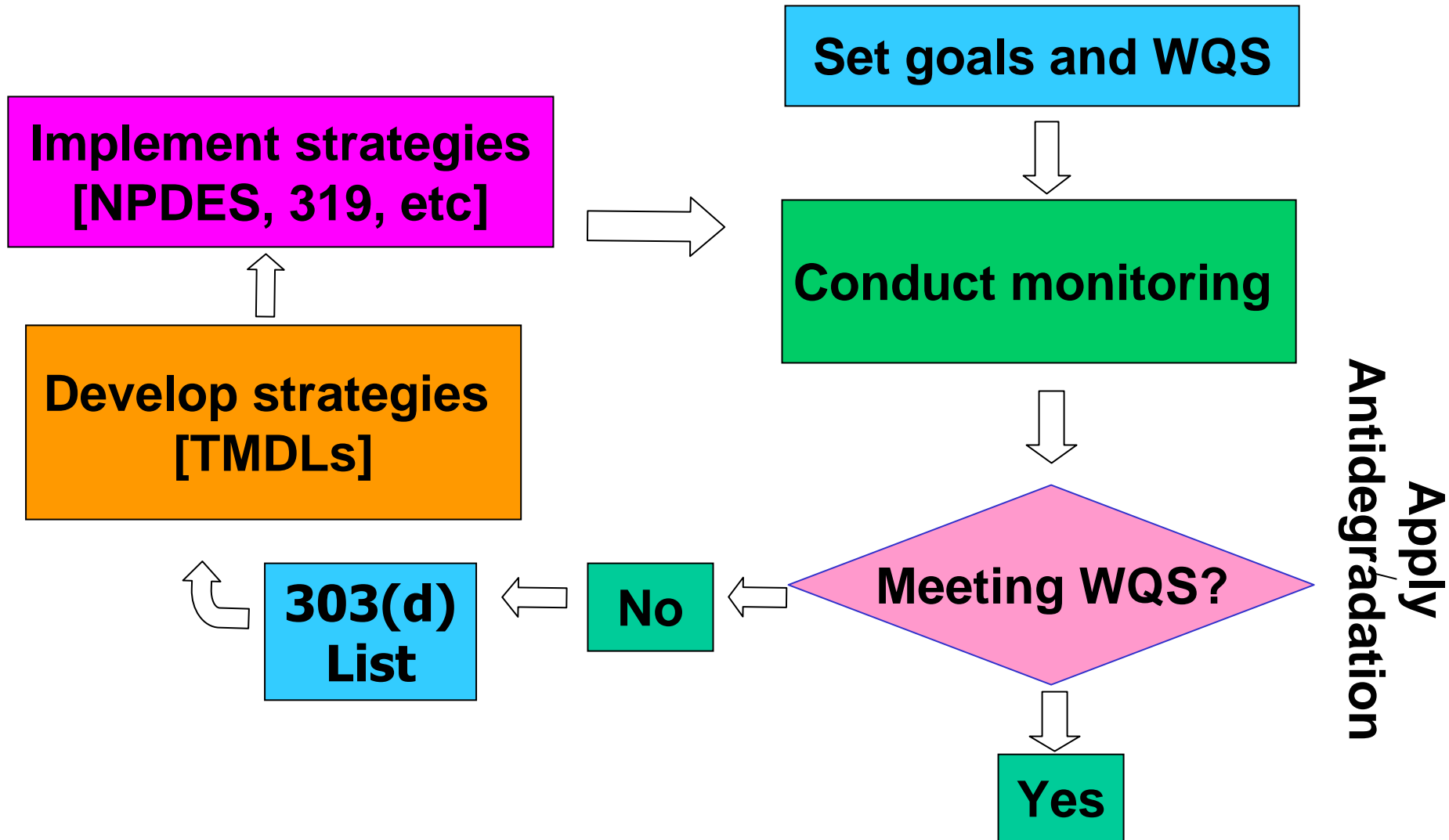
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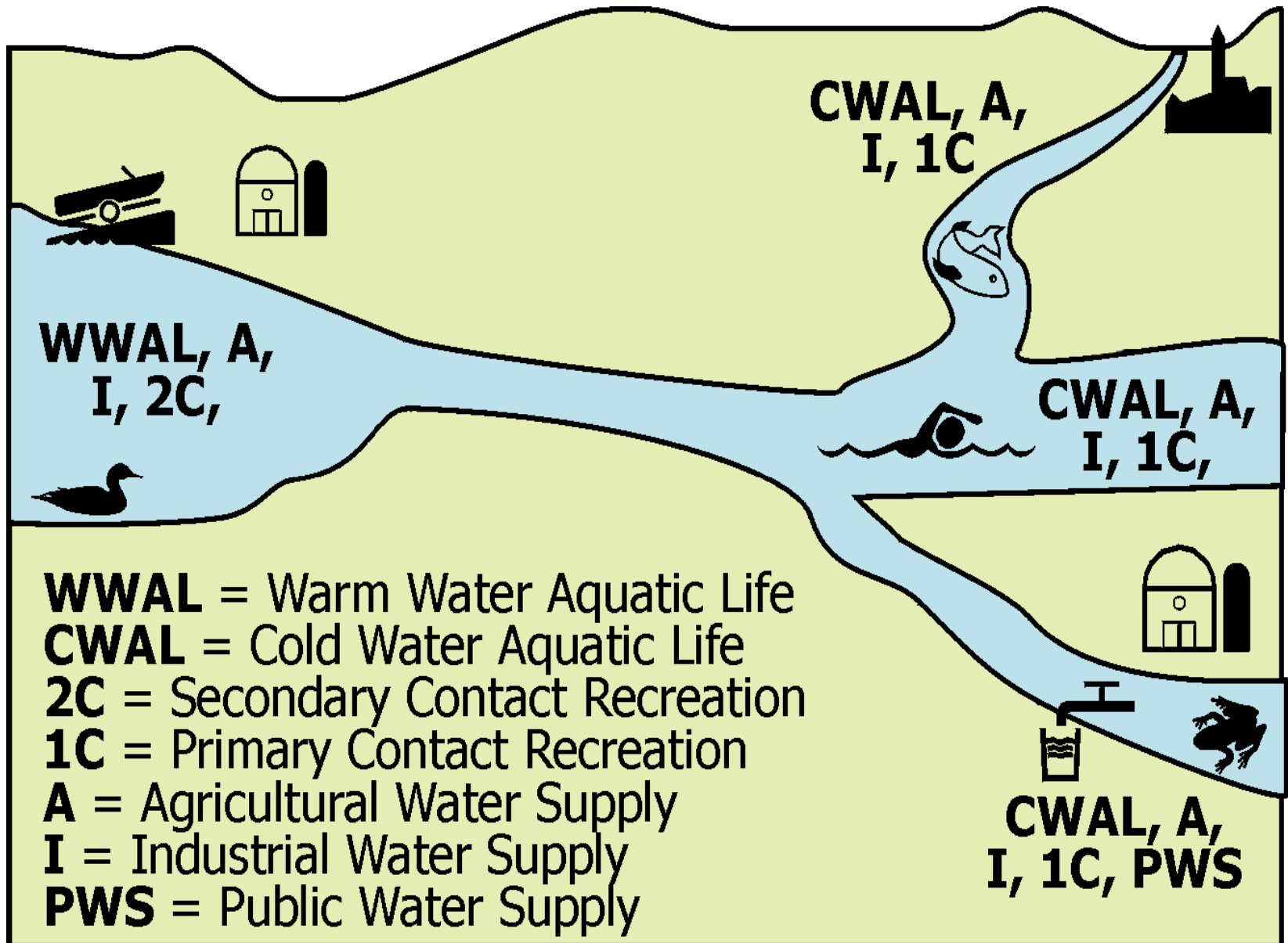
# Session Agenda

- Determining
- 305(b): National Water Quality Inventory & other Water Quality Assessment Reports
- 303(d): Listing Threatened and Impaired Waters
- TMDLs – Total Daily Maximum Loads

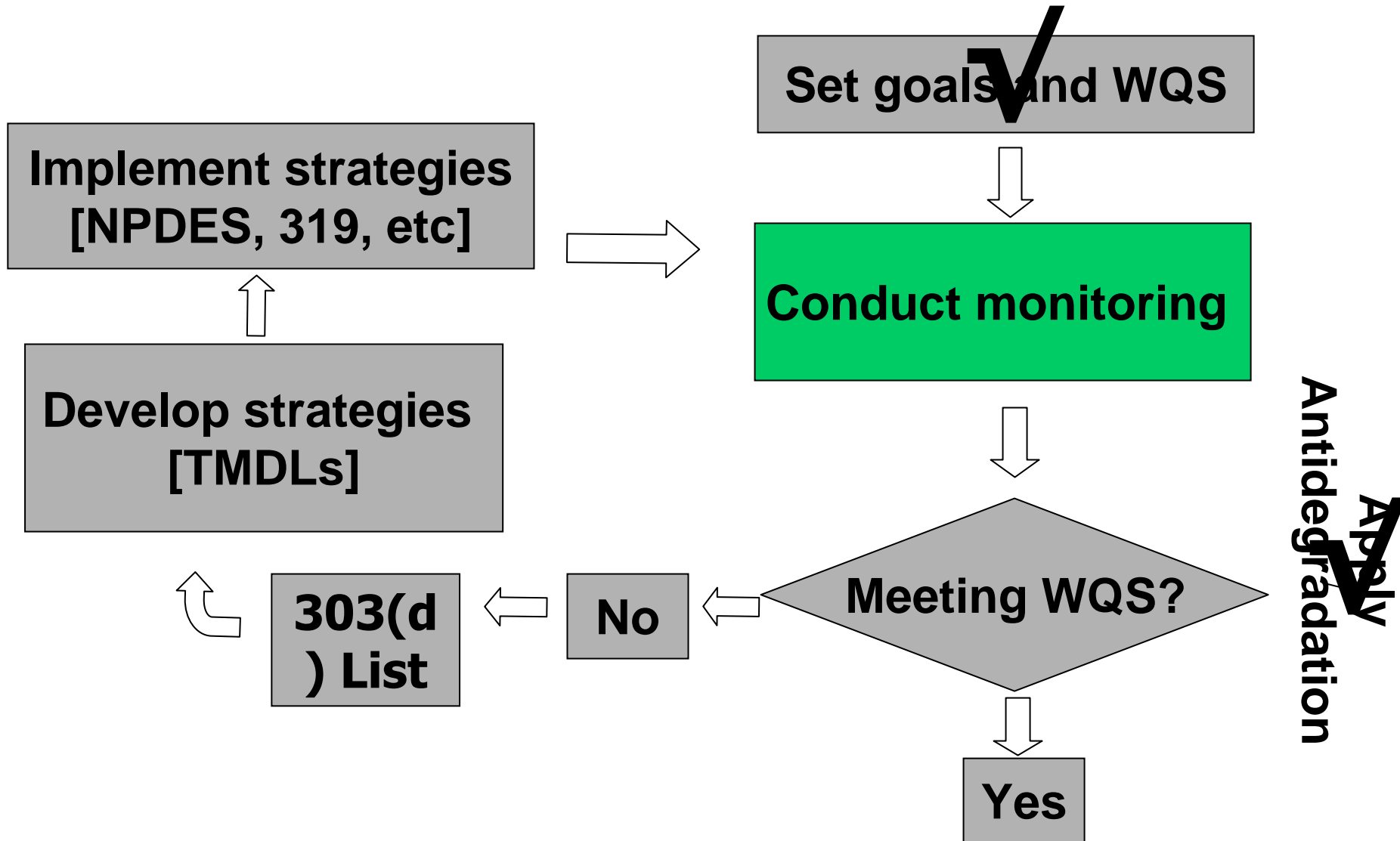
# CWA: Basic Elements



# WQS: Use Classifications



# CWA: Basic Elements



# Monitoring and Assessment: What are we looking for?



# Types of Monitoring and Assessments

- Chemical
  - Mostly numeric criteria (D.O., metals, pesticides, chlorides)
- Physical
  - Numeric (flow, temperature, habitat structure) or narrative (objectionable color, aquatic habitat)
- Biological
  - Numeric (indices of biological integrity, fecal coliform concentrations, chlorophyll a) or narrative (support populations of fish/shellfish)

# Water Quality Reports Required by the Clean Water Act:

- Section 305(b) - National Water Quality Inventory
  - [www.epa.gov/ow/national/](http://www.epa.gov/ow/national/)
- Section 303(d) - Threatened and Impaired Waters List
  - [www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/atlas/](http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/atlas/)



# Percent of Waterbodies Assessed

| Waterbody Type          | Total Size | Amount Assessed<br>(% of Total) | Polluted<br>(% of Assessed) |
|-------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| River<br>(miles)        | 3,692,830  | 699,946<br>(19%)                | 269,258<br>(39%)            |
| Lakes<br>(acres)        | 40,603,893 | 17,339,080<br>(43%)             | 7,702,370<br>(45%)          |
| Estuaries<br>(sq.miles) | 87,369     | 31,072<br>(36%)                 | 15,676<br>(51%)             |

# 305(b): National Water Quality Inventory

- States, tribes submit biennially to EPA
- EPA overview Report to Congress
- Condition of all waterbodies
- Key causes of impairment
  - Pollutants/other stressors
  - Sources
- Progress toward CWA goals

# 303(d): Threatened and Impaired Waters List

- Biennial submission by states and tribes to EPA for review and approval
- Waters not currently meeting WQS
- Waters currently meeting WQS but expected to not meet WQS by date for next 303(d) list